

Official News-Letter of the Founders' Younger Boys' Camp  
The American Youth Foundation, 3713 Washington Boulevard, St. Louis, Mo.

Volume V

April, 1935.

#### A Message to Boys -

"Live every moment you can in the open. Observe, remember and be curious enough to search for information about what you see and hear of nature in your play and on your hikes through fields, in woods and over sand. And your life will be tremendously enriched by this intimate acquaintance with the great out-of-doors."

- Martin Johnson

#### ALL MINIWANCA CAMPERS KNOW

exactly what Martin Johnson is talking about. We too, have been explorers on our own wooded, sand dunes by the lakes. It's a real privilege we have, to camp on historic Indian territory, in an area that is recognized by the authorities as not only being beautiful country, but one of the healthiest regions in America.

#### WE CAN COUNT THE DAYS NOW

until the gang meets on the big sand dunes overlooking sparkling Stony Lake. Just think - only ten more Saturdays " 'til we meet again." And the majority of the old gang will be in the Clubhouse that opening Wednesday night to get their assignments and join in the fun of the first night. And did you say your buddy was coming along to camp with you this summer?



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS  
CHICAGO, ILL. 60607

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS  
CHICAGO, ILL. 60607

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS  
CHICAGO, ILL. 60607

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS  
CHICAGO, ILL. 60607

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS  
CHICAGO, ILL. 60607



DID YOU SHARE YOUR NEW CAMP FOLDER

with your friend? Remember, that the only way any fine fellows gets to camp, is by some camper or camper-parent telling him about Miniwanca, and recommending him for a place in our midst. He has to be personally invited. Miniwanca campers are a hand-picked lot. Somebody told you about Miniwanca - shouldn't you in turn share this wonderful camp with others?

Send in the names of your friends (boys or girls) at once, so Wadjepe or Horace or I can write them letters. Our Younger Boys' Camp is almost half full already and the limit is 80 different boys. It helps a lot to know ahead of time how many are coming, so we can plan accordingly. Please make us happy by sending in your own registration card as soon as possible.

YOU'VE GOTTA GET TOGETHER  
IF YOU WANT TO GET AHEAD

THAT REMINDS ME

of the new film we just had made which tells the story of our Younger Boys' Camp. It consists of seventy-five of the finest pictures taken during the last few years. Perhaps you'll get to see this dandy "picture story of our camp" this Spring, if one of the Directors comes to your town. Write at once, and tell us if you can arrange a meeting of good camp prospects in your home or church, and we'll try to have the pictures shown in your town.

ONE MORE THING

about helping your friends get to camp. As in past years, you are again entitled to a \$15.00 bonus on your camp fee if you get a friend to come to the Younger Boys' or the Younger Girls' Camp for seven weeks this summer. If they can only come for four weeks you get a \$10.00 bonus on your camp fee. Talk this over with your parents today. They'll help you make a list of the friends to whom the Founder Office may send some new literature.

YOUR PARENTS KNOW

that the informal and intimate contacts of loaders, campers and directors tend to create the right kind of camp situation for boys to learn in. They know too, that our program at Miniwanca begins with the interests, needs and abilities of the individual campers. All the fine loaders are former campers in the Older Boys' Leadership Training Camp, and are chosen for their personality and skills. They are trained to analyze and understand the needs of boys. So in this controlled camp situation with an organized program, all learn to develop four-foldly.

MAKING THE MOST OF MINUTES  
MAKE RESULTS



Of course, Mothers and Dads are always welcome at Camp Miniwanca. There's a special table waiting for them in the Eating Lodge (with Posture Pennant and all) and rooms in the big Tipi-Wakan with



running water and toilet facilities. Comfortable Bonona Lodge is within two minutes of the camp if they prefer to stay there.

### YOU REMEMBER READING

in the last issue of the TRAIL about the new "Golden Stairs" which now take us up and down our huge sand dune. And what an improvement on the tennis court - I can see a dozen fellows right now, banging away at Paddle Tennis - three red hot gamos going on at once. That's one game you'll like. Sure enough, the Crafts House is already finished. It's keen and rustic looking from the outside and there are long work benches and big cabinets for the tools. Don, Mac and all their assistants will be on hand to help you turn out some masterpieces this summer.

HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED THAT  
ALL GREAT MEN HAVE BEEN  
GREAT  
WORKERS  
?



The December issue of the TRAIL also brought the news of Wadjepi purchasing a big, war-canoe - and Charlie Thompson writes that the painting job on it is finished and that "it looks like a newly painted barn." And finally, plans are being completed for an improved dock and possibly a new, big boat-house.

### SPEAKING OF BOATS

- we heard recently that Skipper Warren Reynolds broke his leg in an ice-hockey game at a Toronto ice-hockey rink. We're all pulling for you Warren, and even though we know it will take a while for his leg to heal, we know the doctor will see to it that it heals satisfactorily. In the meantime, gang, Warren has lots of time to think, so he is working out very complete regulations for the use of the row-boats, canoes, sail-boats, sea-sled and the new war-canoe. To be sure, Harvey is planning on returning, and he is also thinking about how you can have more "safe fun" on the lakes.

You old timers will be glad to hear that Harry Monroe is planning hard on returning to Miniwanca this summer. But be careful now, Gus, - - -

If I start telling you all about the many leaders, I'm afraid there wouldn't be enough space in this issue for other news. But I promise to have a word from each one of the 1935 Leaders in the June issue of the TRAIL. Almost all the leadership staff is lined up, and many new men are applying for jobs.

ACCURACY BREEDS  
CONFIDENCE

HERE'S A  
HOT ONE



### AND BEFORE I FORGET IT

the chef next summer will have two new oil stoves with which to cook and bake. Lots of surprises on the menu. Charlie Thompson promises to find some more little pigs this Spring, so we'll have some big pigs to BAR B Q at our annual pow-wow in August. There's good food, and the kind we like, at Miniwanca.



And you'll be able to get in and out of the serving line easier this summer, because those wooden steps in the kitchen that went up to the second floor, have been removed. Now you can line up for "seconds" more quickly.

Again I'm purposely leaving a few bits of news unsaid, so that you'll all get a big surprise or two at camp on the grounds in June. You can just know that the Directors are always making the program and equipment better at Miniwanca.

### "I DARE YOU"

is now in it's third edition, and many campers have given copies of this challenging book by Minisino to their parents, school teachers, pastors and other friends. A copy of "I Dare You" makes a fine graduation gift for high school or college students. The price is \$1.25 a copy. Special price to FOUNDERS of \$1.10 which includes mailing charges. Send in your order to the American Youth Foundation, 3713 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, Mo., and we'll see that you get your copy of the book immediately.



### MANY OF THE LEADERS

have been writing business notes to me, and among them comes one from the distant port of Honolulu. Carl Erdman (alias "The Rat" to Murch) has secured a job on a pineapple farm near this port in the Hawaiian Islands. Some night during the summer of 1936, as we gather for high council, we'll be expecting some weird tales from Carl about his island experiences.

Ed. Waite, a pioneer Younger Boy camper of 1930 and 1931, and now a second year man in the Older Boys' Camp, is an outstanding track star at Washington University in St. Louis. Ed frankly admits that he learned a few points from Rex Steele who was on the Y.B. Camp Leadership Staff in 1931.

### A NUMBER OF YOUNGER BOYS

have written newsy letters. And how happy the folks in the office are whenever they get some news of the fellows, many of whom are hundreds of miles away. Phil Small moved to Orinda, California last Fall, but since the family plan to drive East for the summer, Phil hopes to join us for the second section.

THINK IT OVER-THEN  
PUT IT OVER!



Joe Cahill of Oak Park, Ill. writes that he's all set to return to Miniwanca this summer, and we hope his little brother crawls in his suitcase to come along.

Bobby Wilson is now living in Minneapolis, and hopes to drop by Miniwanca if his parents drive through Michigan this summer. We'd like to see you Bob!

Frederic Flanagan is finishing his preparatory work at Tome school in Maryland, hoping to enter Yale in the Fall. "Red" is considering being an assistant-to-the-leader this summer. Come on Red!



Sid Wortman saw to it that a letter arrived this morning, and it tells how he is "homesick for the sandy dunes, the fun of the dip, and the beauty of the sunsets on Lake Michigan." Sid has been keeping busy with dramatics, band, and orchestra. He's majoring in public school and applied music. And who knows but what big Sid will be returning to Miniwanca as a leader of music one of these summers.

#### AND TALKING ABOUT LEADERSHIP.

For the past two years we have been quietly testing this plan of "Assistant-to-the-Leaders" in the Younger Boys' Camp. When a camper reaches sixteen or seventeen he is a bit old for the regular Younger Boys' Camp. However, he may want a longer term of camping than the two weeks of Older Boys' Camp. Also he is so familiar with, and so attached to, the Younger Boy campers and leaders, that he is really anxious to spend another season with them in the Y.B.Camp.

So-o-o, to meet this situation and at the same time give these "big boys" a chance to develop their leadership stuff, they are given the special privilege of registering in the Y. B. Camp just as they always have. Then, when they come to camp they are assigned to the various heads of departments - crafts, archery, aquatic, athletic, general administration, etc. - and given special leadership responsibilities under the men who are heading up the work of the camp.

DIDJA EVER NOTICE THAT THE  
HAPPIEST GUYS ARE THE  
BUSIEST?



The older fellows are campers, and participate in all the activities of the camp but with this special leadership training relationship. If a sufficient number of these old campers register for this summer they will be assigned to special living quarters with fellows of their own age.

This certainly is an attractive proposition for our older Younger Boy Campers. Of course, these fellows are expected to register in the Older Boys' Camp the last two weeks of August, which will give them a

most interesting summer at Camp Miniwanca.

#### NOW - WHAT WOULD YOU FELLOWS THINK

if we worked out a new water front plan this summer something like the diagram shown on the next page?

This would give us a set-up that would enable us to conduct our swimming meets on an official basis. There would be "push-off" boards for making the turn just as in an indoor tank. If we had this sort of equipment, we could compare the time of the swimmers with established swimming records and so get a real line on the ability of our Miniwanca swimmers. What do you say to this proposal?

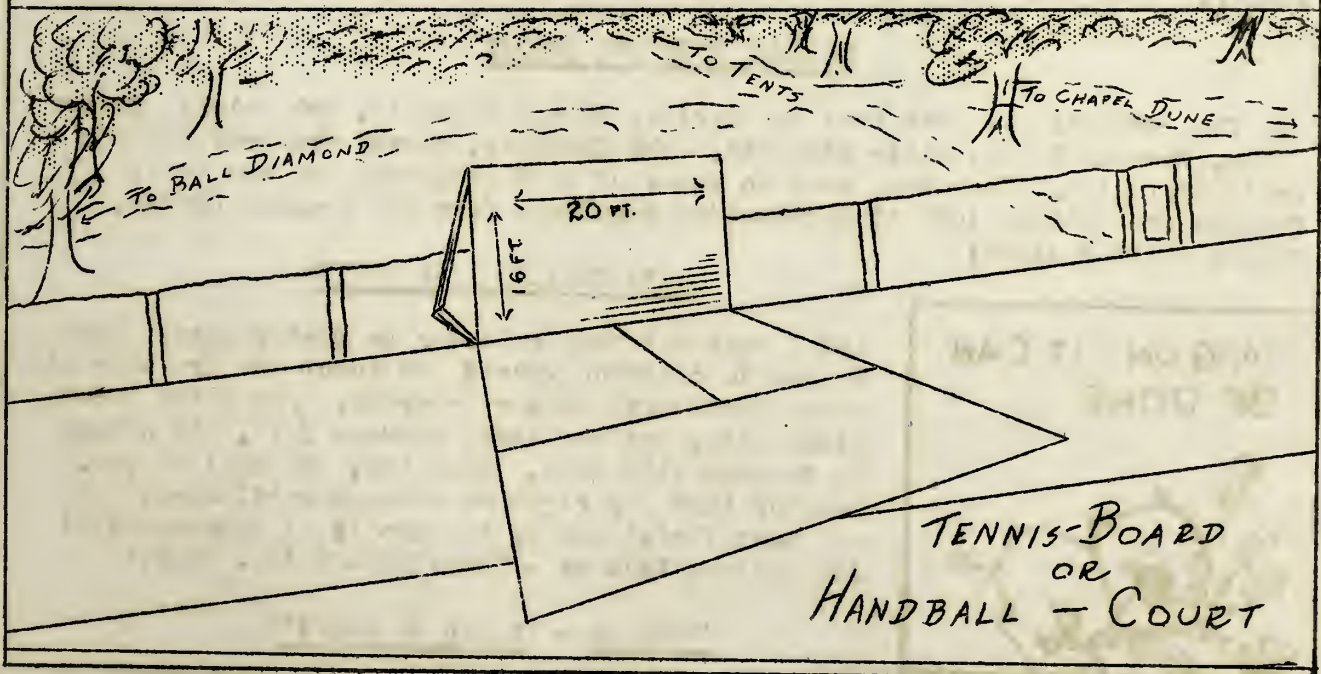
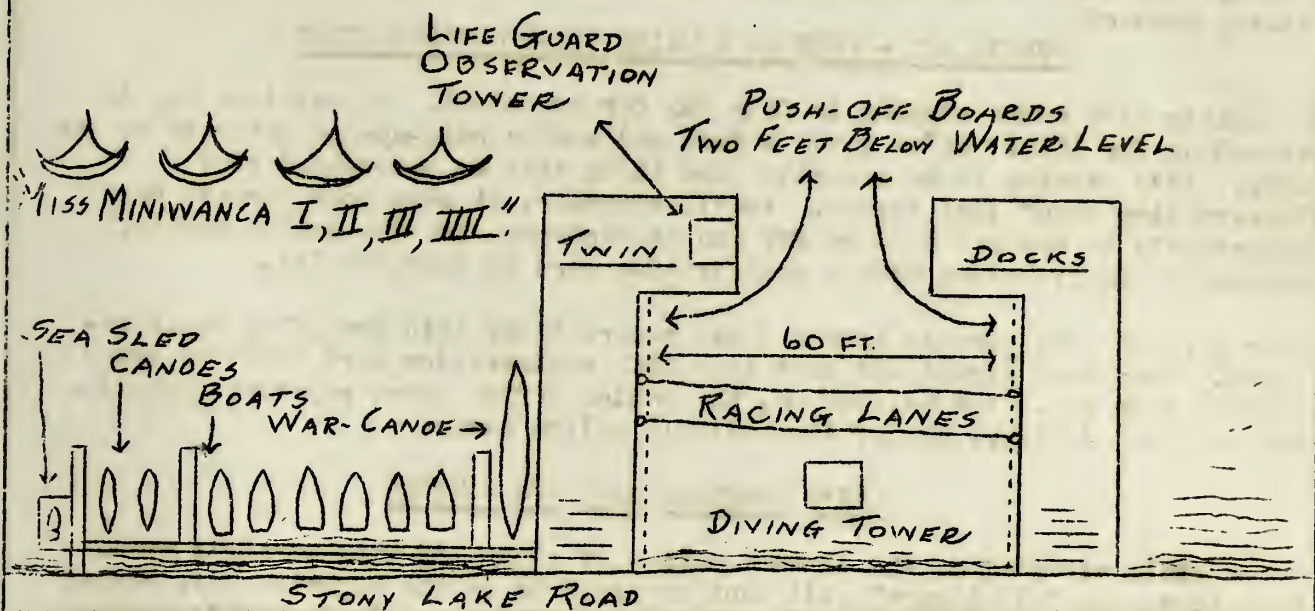
#### AND WHAT WOULD YOU THINK ALSO

if on one side of the big tennis court you would find a tennis board. One on which you can remove the kinks from your arms and get into a stride that will bring your game up to its highest level.



Wadjepi is considering having one built, to be about twenty feet wide and sixteen feet high. It would be on the east side of the tennis court, facing the rising sun, so we will never have the sun in our eyes when we practice. There would possibly be a "net" along the entire width of the board, three feet high. It might be made of bags, stuffed with straw, rags, or excelsior. That would make a fool proof "net" inasmuch as it prevents your ball from returning when you hit it below the net. There can be no doubt about whether you "got it over" with this type of net!

### SUGGESTED PLAN FOR IMPROVED WATERFRONT





You know, if we marked regular tennis lines on the concrete joining this board a fellow could almost play a game of tennis by himself. What say you Tilden's who are looking for worlds to conquer?!!

### BUT REMEMBER

that some of the fellows may want to play HANDBALL against this board, so we may have to arrange for a different kind of a portable "net".

Many athletes have found handball the best conditioner there is. It exercises every muscle of the body, sharpens the eye and keeps the brain alert at all times. How many of you would like to see handball "on the boards" for this coming summer?

### BOY OH BOY - JUST AS I WRITE THESE CLOSING LINES

a registration comes zipping in from the far Southland. A Louisiana boy is signed up for 1935! We've never before had such a wide-spread interest in our camp. It's proving to be a mighty good thing that we introduced that "reservation plan" last summer. You'll remember, it gave your parents an opportunity to reserve a place for you at Miniwanca for the coming summer, subject to confirmation with a registration card by February 1st.

Many parents have already turned these reservations into bona fide registrations. They have signed and sent in a 1935 registration card with the usual initial camp fee. And believe me, the entire office force rejoices each time the mail man delivers one of these little yellow cards.

### LET'S REMEMBER THAT NEW CAMPERS

are rapidly scooping up the limited number of places in this summer's camp. We believe you "old timers" will want to again be in the majority this coming summer. Each year over 60% of the Miniwanca campers are "repeaters".

### WE JUST MUST NOT FORGET

the fine promotional work that Joe Verlie, George Bramhall, Bob Leland, Carter Allen, Proctor Waldo, Billy Richards, John Sheckler, George Orndorff and Jim Orwig are doing. They have sent in names of good prospects and now their friends are getting lots of information regularly from the Founder Office. Thanks a lot fellows!

### IT'S GETTING NEAR EASTER

HANG ON - IT CAN  
BE DONE



and I must get busy coloring my Easter Eggs. Luck to you in coloring yours! No doubt you are busy at your church with Easter Programs. After the March winds blow, and the April showers fall, all nature is teeming with life. Boys too, are full of pep. Keep up that pep right on through until June. We all must finish strong in school! I remember what Joe Whitwam told us - "POSTURE - PLAY - PLAN."

"Hang On - It Can Be Done!"